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The views expressed are those of the [author(s)] [presenter(s)] and do not reflect the official views or policy of the Department of Defense or its Components

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What is a Literature Search?

A literature search is a well thought out and organized search for all of the literature published on a topic. A well-structured literature search is the most effective and efficient way to locate sound evidence on the subject you are researching. Evidence may be found in books, journals, government documents and the internet.



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Objective

Identify successful strategies for finding the best evidence resources



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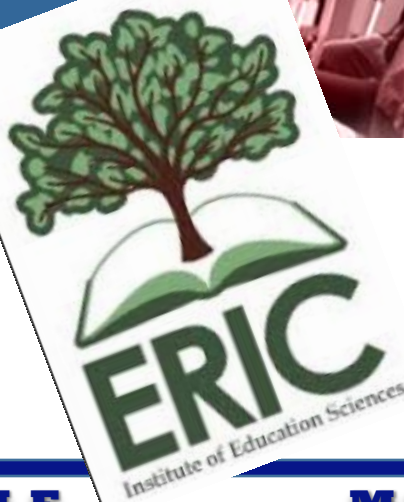
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Prepare for the Search

- Make a plan for how to get evidence
 - One database is NOT enough
 - Select databases that contain the subject of your question



Medline



EBSCO search



Cochrane
Library

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Defense Medical Virtual Library

The Defense Medical Virtual Library (DMVL) offers mission-essential online collections of medical ejournals, ebooks and searchable medical/biomedical databases.

Reference

- Assistance in using the electronic resources
- Reference and research on topic of interest
- Customized literature searches and bibliographies
- Verification of bibliographic citations

Interlibrary Loan

- The library user will be expected to request only materials that are related to their work.
- The library will support military personnel and DoD civilians pursuing course work.
- All copyright restrictions apply.
- Material not owned by the library can be requested on interlibrary loan. If you have an urgent need for articles, please let us know when you make the request. Turnaround is usually 24-48 hours. Book requests are dependent on the U.S. postal system or other carriers.

Recommending New Materials

Military personnel and DoD civilians are invited to suggest digital resources to include e-books which they feel are important to the mission. We are no longer purchasing books and journals in hard copy.

Ask a Librarian

- The Ask a Librarian service is for registered users of the DMVL.
- If you're not registered or eligible for DMVL services, we'll refer you to a more appropriate library or source of information.
- [Contact us](#) for more information.



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- Fax: 703-681-6568

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- Monday - Friday

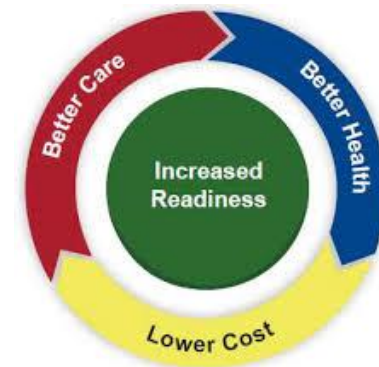
Mailing Address

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Library Services
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Falls Church, VA 22042-5142

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PubMed



pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov

PubMed is a free search engine accessing primarily the MEDLINE database of references and abstracts on life sciences and biomedical topics. The United States National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health maintain the database as part of the Entrez system of information retrieval. Wikipedia

Date launched: January 1996

Created by: National Library of Medicine



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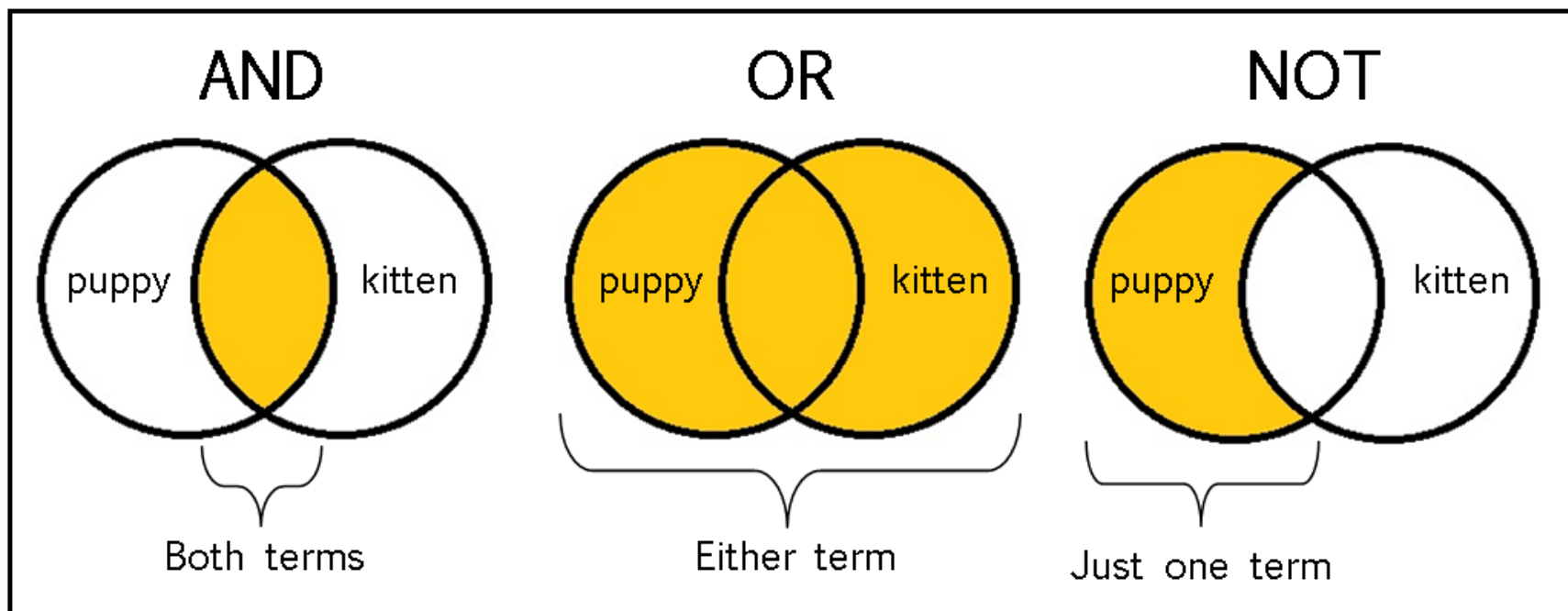
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Useful Tools and Techniques

- Combine Search Terms
 - Boolean terms: AND, OR, NOT





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Prepare for the Search

- Hone your clinical question
- Use PICOT format

P – Population I – Intervention

C – Comparison O – Outcome T – Time



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Example:

PICOT Question:

For *adults* status post *hip replacement*,
how do *pneumatic compression devices*
versus *low molecular weight heparin*
administration affect the *incidence of deep*
vein thrombosis (DVT) formation?



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Tips for Organizing the Evidence Gathered

- Use a Reference Management Tool (RefWorks, End Note, Zotero)
- 3X5 or 4X6 Cards with Important Details and/or Abstract Attached
- Highlight the Best Articles with Information that Answers Your Question



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Consolidate the Evidence

- Use Tables to Organize Most Important Details
- Types of Tables: Evaluation Table; Synthesis Table ;Levels of Evidence; Outcomes; Miscellaneous, i.e. Criteria, Factors, etc.

Article #	First Author (year)	Conceptual Framework	Design/ Method	Sample / Setting	Major Variables Studied (and their definitions)	Measurement	Data Analysis	Findings	Appraisal: Worth to Practice

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QUESTIONS???

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